customs duty concessions are available to newspapers on import of printing machinery and allied material. RNI issues only essentiality certificates to those registered newspapers who apply for it to enable them to avail of the duty concessions.

Telecasting time of regional services

7854. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been requested to increase telecasting time of regional services on Doordarshan:

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) whether Government have taken any decision thereon: and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) Such requests are received from different quarters from time to time.

(c) and (d) An additional four hours per week have been provided for regional programmes in the revised programme schedule for DD1 and DD2 operative from 2nd June, 1995.

Installation of HPTs

7855. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether High Power Transmitters have been installed in some States and Union Territories;

(b) if so, their locations, State and Territory-wise with estimated cost involved in each case;

(c) whether people have been benefited from this facility;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government propose to extend this facility in some more States and Union Territories during the current year; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A state-wise list of locations where High Power Transmitters are in operation is given in the annexed Statement-I. (*See* below). The estimated cost of setting up of High Power Transmitter of 10 KW Power is about Rs. 8 to 10 crores and that for a station of 1 KW Power is about Rs. 6 to 7 crores at present.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. 681 Transmitters of varying powers, including 75 High Power Transmitters, are relaying Doordarshan's primary channel (DD-I) and regional channel service to about 85.4% population of the country. In addition, 28 more Transmitters are terrestrially relaying metro channel (DD-II) and 2 transmitters are terrestrially relaying parliament coverage.

(e) Yes, Sir.